

## **Governor's Commission for a Drug Free Indiana 7-18-07 Meeting Minutes**

Members Present:	Mark Branch	Bruce Copple
	Dr. Wyatt Mullinax	Jim Bobe
	Judge William Sleva	Sen. Earline Rogers
	Isaac Randolph	Steve Camilleri
	Melissa Long	Dr. Tim Kelly
	Chairman, John von Arx	

CJI Staff: Jason Hutchens, Sonya Cleveland, Laura Coykendall, Janice Lee

John von Arx opened the meeting with introductions for the Commission's newest member, Ike Randolph.

SPF-SIG overview was given by Jason Hutchens. Grants have been awarded in the areas of Alcohol, Meth, and Cocaine. The contracts are going through the process. The Epidemiological Group is now a permanent group added to the SPF-SIG team. Teams led by Kim Manlove and Marcia French will do site visits for all of the SPF-SIG awarded organizations. Technical assistance is being given to the coalitions throughout Indiana. John Viernes discussed the contract process and if the grantee is not a 501(c) 3, they cannot go to the banks and obtain a loan. Due to Block Grants requiring a needs assessment, the SEOW fulfills the requirement.

Point of Youth (P.O.Y.) has 27 newly accepted youth members and 12 returning POY students for the 2007-08 year according to Sonya Cleveland. Jennifer Cox from Cascade High School and Kendra Grimmert from Hancock County presented an overview of their experiences in the Point of Youth Program. Kendra shared how P.O.Y. has changed her life giving her confidence and raising her self-esteem. A few of the issues P.O.Y. has been involved with are advocacy, issues and policies, letter writing, education, and peer facilitating. The P.O.Y. Retreat scheduled for the end of July will involve discussions such as creating a Statewide Action Plan, brainstorming and how to achieve initiatives for the enthusiastic group of young people. Jennifer Cox is a Local Coordinating Council Youth Member in Hendricks County. She explained her concerns of how young people drink because they do not feel like they have anything to do. Jennifer Cox continued to explain how P.O.Y. members were instrumental in achieving their goal of a truck seatbelt law passing to become a law while protecting citizens in Indiana. Kendra explained how a key component with a successful group is the team effort which works well within the P.O.Y. adult and youth members. The interaction empowers the youth to accomplish their goals, but the adult representatives steer the youth members down the right path. A general overview of the Youth Summit was provided as well as the process of how the group decides what to send to the legislators. The P.O.Y. members learn how to respect others and how to achieve their goals by working together as a group.

Melissa Long inquired about creating a legislative movement toward liberating ourselves from text messaging and cell phone usage while operating vehicles. Sonya Cleveland explained due to funding from Substance Abuse grants and EUDL grant money P.O.Y. cannot undertake such a project.

P.O.Y. Retreat attendees use Logic Model Research methods to validate the impact of the issues on communities throughout Indiana. After the young people identify the problems in their communities, they develop a plan as to why there is a problem and what changes need to occur to change perception in some cases or achieve the community goals. After extensive research of an identified problem, Jennifer Cox explained how facts are used in the process, not assumptions. Bruce Copple shared how he had seen great improvements in the P.O.Y. Program and its positive impact on the communities.

A Meth Data Work Group from CJI, DOC, ISP, DCS, DMHA and IDEM are collecting data from agencies to provide the Governor with one report rather than several different reports. Josh Ross, Research Division Director from CJI, is the chair for this Work Group. The Work Group is assessing data reliability and quality as well as attaining additional types of data to obtain a clear and true picture of the Meth situation in Indiana. There is a need for Treatment Facility figures from across the State. It is difficult to obtain private facility figures.

John von Arx spoke about the challenges of acquiring better data for a detailed data set report.

The central repository for law enforcement is the EPIC center (El Paso Intelligence Center). EPIC collects data from National, State, and Local sources. Tracking and completing various statistical reports are included in the EPIC program. Due to Indiana's lack of reporting from several of Indiana's 500 law enforcement agencies, it is difficult to obtain correct data reports. Although a law enforcement agency may rank higher than another in crime statistics, it could be the level of reporting.

The Meth Watch staff continues to develop a "Meth Community Kit" according to Sonya Cleveland. Electronic updates will be posted on the website for communities.

Dr. Mullinax shared information regarding a seminar on Meth Treatment in Communities for Counselors. He stated improvements need to be made in this area.

A recovering Meth addict appeared on an hour TV show. Melissa Long shared the recovering addicts' challenges and concerns of a relapse and re-arrest issues. Melissa will inquire about the gentleman attending the August Governor's Commission meeting to share his story. Melissa further explained how he has been drug-free for 1 year.

Lack of robust local resources among many Indiana communities is a concern according to John Viernes of DMHA. There is also a lack of funding for college loans for persons trying to re-enter into a community. John von Arx discussed an over-all re-entry program and other than Dept of Corrections. Performance measures need to be evaluated also.

Strategic Community Comprehensive Plans are submitted by the 92 Local Coordinating Councils to the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute's 13 Community Consultants. The Community Consultants engage in Community Awareness and Education as well as their time is also divided up into various tasks such as reviewing the plans, communication, events, meetings, travel time, communication such as email and phone calls, and research to assist their designated communities fight against substance abuse. Most Local Coordinating Councils suspend at least one of their monthly meetings in the summer due to members' vacations. The LCC's and Community Consultants attend the County Fairs to build substance abuse awareness and ask community members to complete substance abuse surveys. The local LCC members are able to meet with the people from their communities one by one at the County Fairs. The Community Consultants are out in the field discussing issues with judges, clerks, and other community leaders. They are able to assist the Indiana's leaders with long-term drug control strategy issues. A report is being developed to determine the amount of money being spent on Prevention/Education, Treatment, and Criminal Justice/Law Enforcement programs in Indiana's 92 counties.

The Judicial Center, State Board of Accounts and the Indiana Criminal Justice Institute are reviewing methods of analyzing data in sample counties to determine if there is a need for a detailed analysis of the fee collection process in various counties. Some counties do not appear to be collecting and dispersing the correct amounts of drug-free monies. Newly elected County officials and Judges can sometimes reveal a need for training on the issue of fee collection. Judge Sleva explained how in the counties with a high unemployment rate it becomes an issue with assessing anything except the lowest fee.

John von Arx has discussed some of the issues with the Judicial Case Management Group. One tool which is used in some counties is to withhold bonds until the fees are paid. An additional tool is to continue probation until the fees are paid.

Child and Adolescent Strengths and Needs Assessment & Outcome Management is an instrument used as a common assessment tool across Child Service Systems. CANS can be useful to families and direct service providers, inform plans of care and levels of care, communicate, measure outcomes, and improve quality. The program can be used as:

1. Decision Support Emphasis
2. Policy making tool
3. Implementation Phase

John Viernes explained whether or not CANS will capture non-public vs private practitioners remains to be seen. Certification will be required to use the system and to maintain credibility.

Prime Time Inc. of Morgan County has pledged to be more assertive and hands on with their organizational duties. The Special Prosecutor, Barry Brown, has notified the LCC and the Community Consultant the local prosecutor is waiting on the IRS decision whether the LCC will be obligated to back taxes. Sonya Cleveland explained the LCC's plan has been approved and they are moving forward with their goals and objectives.

Vigo County's plan was denied last month due to lack of evaluation and not meeting the objectives. The current plan does not provide the necessary outcomes or data to proceed. A follow-up meeting is set up to discuss these issues with the Vigo County LCC members.

Noble County requested a one month extension. Melissa Long supported the motion to extend the request to them as well as Dr. Mullinax seconded the motion.

Wayne County's LCC cannot proceed with their SPF-SIG commitment due to lack of grant funding being delivered at this point in time. It was recommended by a representative from the SPF-SIG team that the LCC borrow money from the Drug-free Community Fund and replace it when the SPF-SIG grant money emerges. Sonya Cleveland explained how this proposal does not statutorily follow in line with disbursement of County Drug-Free Funds and cannot be instituted. Wayne County was given a grant award for being High Need and Low Capacity for their Cocaine problem. The LCC however is not a 501c 3 so they cannot obtain a loan from the bank.

Tipton County's Comprehensive Plan was due in June. Sonya Cleveland recommended the LCC receive a letter indicating due to the lack of an updated plan the funds cannot be disbursed. Melissa Long and Steve Camilleri moved the recommendation be followed and notify the LCC. All of the commission members approved the recommendation.

The June 2007 Governor's Commission Minutes were approved. The next Governor's Commission meeting will be held on August 15, 2007 beginning at 11 am in the Indiana Government Center South Room 18.

A brief discussion was held regarding the continued 2008 meeting dates and times for the purpose of scheduling meeting rooms. The meeting time of 11 a.m. – 1 p.m. was agreed upon as being the best solution.

Meeting was adjourned.